

Town of Auburn, Massachusetts
Minutes of the Meeting
Conservation Commission
Auburn Town Hall Planning Board Room
Wednesday, June 10, 2020

In attendance: Michael Garland; Chairman, Thomas Fallon; Vice Chair, Carolyn Corriveau, Alison Holmes, Michelle Culross and Nathan Rand

Absent: Antonios Rominiou

Also Present: Caleb Moody; Building Commissioner and Darlene Doyle; DDIS Director.

7:00PM called meeting to order. The Town cable staff was present and the meeting was recorded. The meeting could be watched on the town's website live streaming. This meeting was held virtually utilizing GoToMeeting.

7:00 PM Applicant Southwest Manufactured Housing (Justin Stelmok) Request for Determination of Applicability for replacement of two sheds at 23 Pinrock Road Auburn, MA Map 28 Parcel 45.

Thomas Fallon made a motion to open, seconded by Carolyn Corriveau. The vote was all in favor.

Justin Stelmok was present for the hearing. Mr. Stelmok explained that he would like to remove the two existing sheds on the property and replace them with one 8x40ft storage container. The existing sheds are in a state of disrepair. Mr. Stelmok said the storage container would be used to store construction materials for their developments. He said that he is proposing to place the shed right on the 50ft buffer line. Alison Holmes expressed that she would prefer the storage container to be outside the 50ft buffer zone. Alison Holmes asked if there will be any erosion control measures in place during the demolition of the two sheds. Mr. Stelmok said there will be measures in place to protect the wetlands behind the existing sheds. Alison Holmes asked if Mr. Stelmok would be willing to move the storage container outside of the 50ft buffer zone. Mr. Stelmok said he could look into other areas if that was his only option. Michael Garland mentioned Mr. Stelmok could possibly move the storage container closer to Pinrock Road. Mr. Stelmok agreed with Mr. Garland and Alison Holmes and said he would move the shed outside the 50ft buffer zone.

There were no further comments from the Commission or public.

Carolyn Corriveau made a motion to close, seconded by Nathan Rand. The vote was all in favor.

7:10 Applicant: Auburn Water District for a Notice of Intent for the proposed Interconnection with the City of Worcester at Southbridge and Sword Streets in Auburn, MA Maps 6 & 12

Thomas Fallon made a motion to open, seconded by Nathan Rand. The vote was all in favor.

Ken Smith, Superintendent of the Auburn Water District was present for the meeting. Dave Romance from Comprehensive Environmental Inc. was present for the hearing as well. Ken Smith gave an overview of the project. In an effort to maintain adequate water to current and future residents, the Auburn Water District is

always looking for other water sources. Mr. Smith said that the Auburn Water District has been successful in obtaining grants under the Water Management Act to study where to access additional water sources. After reviewing all of the options for additional water sources, there was a consensus that exploring a water connection with Worcester would be the best option. The City of Worcester was approached by the Auburn Water District and the City was willing to look into a possible connection. A connection with Worcester would allow the Auburn Water District to have an additional source of water in the case of an emergency. The Auburn Water District is proposing to connect to Worcester at Hope Ave by running the pipe down Route 12 and Sword Street. Dave Romance, from Comprehensive Environmental Inc., briefly reviewed the proposed project as well. Mr. Romance reviewed the resource area impacts and protective measures they will utilize when putting in the water main. Most impacts within the buffer zone are on existing pavement and are temporary. Kettle Brook will be impacted as well. Dave Romance said they are proposing to perform pipe jacking beneath Kettle Brook. Mr. Romance also informed the Commission that the project requires permits through the Inter-Basin Transfer Act, which is in process. Additionally, they are required to obtain a permits through MASSDEP and MASSDOT. They will also need to secure an easement with MASSDOT.

Michael Garland said that it would be beneficial for the Commission to visit the wetlands within the proposed project area. The Auburn Water District did not have any objections to a site visit. The visit was scheduled for June, 20th with the Commission, Ken Smith, Auburn Water District Superintendent and Dave Romance.

There were no additional comments from the Commission or Public.

Alison Holmes made a motion to continue until June 24th, seconded by Nathan Rand. The vote was all in favor.

7:20 PM Applicant Jacob Warren Request for Determination of Applicability for construction of 16' x 33' above ground pool and 10' x 33' deck at 4 Whitetail Run Auburn, MA Map 58 Parcel 59 & 95.

Thomas Fallon made a motion to open, seconded by Michelle Culross. The vote was all in favor.

Jacob Warren was present for the hearing. Michael Garland stated that he was able to visit the property prior to the meeting. At the site visit Michael Garland reviewed the project with Jacob Warren. Mr. Garland explained that the above ground pool can be relocated to be outside the 100ft buffer zone. Mr. Warren agreed and said he will construct the pool outside of the buffer zone. Mr. Warren said he already submitted updated plans to the Building Department with the new location of the pool.

There were no additional comments from the Commission or public.

Thomas Fallon made a motion to close, seconded by Carolyn Corriveau. The vote was all in favor.

7:30 Applicant: Mike Pham for a Notice of Intent for the proposed construction of a single family home with driveway and septic and septic system at 90 Tinker Hill Road Auburn, MA Map 59 Parcel 30

Thomas Fallon made a motion to open, seconded by Michelle Culross. The vote was all in favor.

David Sadowski from D. J & Associates was present for the hearing. Mr. Sadowski submitted a new plan on June 10th to fulfill requirements from the Board of Health. Mr. Sadowski briefly introduced the project. The applicant is proposing to construct a single family home and septic system at 90 Tinker Hill Road. Michael Garland asked if the builders will need to bring in any fill to the site. Mr. Sadowski said that they will need to bring in some fill and sand to the site but most of the fill will come from the construction of the foundation for

the house. Michael Garland asked when the applicant would start construction. Mr. Sadowski said they would like to begin within two months.

Alison Holmes said that the house seems close to the wetland. She asked if there was any consideration to move the house further away from the buffer zone. David Sadowski said that the placement of the house is difficult due to the setback requirements in the rural residential zone and the slope of the site. Mr. Sadowski said he could move the garage slightly a few feet to locate the house 27ft from the wetland line. Mr. Sadowski said he would explore additional options with the builder as well. Mr. Sadowski said he would be happy to take a site walk with the Commission to further explain the challenges of the site. The Commission agreed to setting up a site visit with Mr. Sadowski.

There were no additional comments from the Commission or public.

Thomas Fallon made a motion to continue until June 24th, seconded by Michelle Culross. The vote was all in favor. The Commission agreed to visit the site as well.

7:40 Applicant: Eastland Partners Inc. (Chad Boardman) for a Notice of Intent for the proposed construction of a two family structure with decks, installation of all utilities to service structure and associated grading within the 100' buffer zone at 31 & 33 Albert Street in Auburn, MA Map 65 Parcel 68

Thomas Fallon made a motion to open, seconded by Nathan Rand. The vote was all in favor.

Peter Lavoie from Turning Point Engineering was present for the hearing. Mr. Lavoie gave an overview of the proposed project. Eastland Partners is proposing a duplex lot, roughly 80ft from the wetland. They are proposing two recharge areas for the roofs. Additionally, they will use straw wattles for erosion control and protection of the wetland. There will be no work within 50ft of the wetland. Mr. Lavoie also informed the Commission that the project received approval from the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Michael Garland mentioned that the Commission received comments from MASSDEP. In the correspondence, MASSDEP requested a stormwater report and checklist. Mr. Lavoie said the stormwater report was already reviewed by Graves Engineering and approved for the subdivision and duplexes. The report and checklist were reviewed as part of the Planning Board process. Michael Garland said that the Commission would like to have an opportunity to review those documents as well. The Commission decided to continue the hearing.

There were no additional comments from the Commission or public.

Alison Holmes made a motion to continue until June 24th, seconded by Nathan Rand. The vote was all in favor.

Complaints:

Complaint about a PVC pipe noticed coming from the slope of 341 Leicester St and going into the pond located on 343 Leicester St. Continued from 5/13/2020

Michael Garland stated that he visited the site and confirmed that there is a pipe coming from the slope of 341 Leicester Street and going into the pond located at 343 Leicester Street. Mr. Garland said he does not know why the pipe is currently in place. Mr. Garland also stated that no applicant came to the Commission to receive approval to install the pipe. Alison Holmes mentioned the pipe might be a sump pump discharge. Michael Garland suggested sending a letter to the homeowner at 341 Leicester Street to inquire about the pipe. Carolyn Corriveau said she went to the property and saw the pipe discharging into the pond as well.

Michelle Culross made a motion to send a letter to the homeowner at 341 Leicester Street and request that they come to the June 24th Conservation Commission Meeting, seconded by Thomas Fallon. The vote was all in favor.

OTHER BUISNESS:

1. 278-280 Bryn Mawr Ave Bill and Barbara Ela looking for guidance on how they can save trees from erosion at shoreline. Continued from 5/13/2020

Michael Garland said that he is not aware of any assistance the Commission can provide the homeowners regarding this issue. He understands the concern and will contact DEP to see if they can provide any guidance.

2. **Deborah Nurse of 17 Goddard Dr.** "I'm writing because I am experiencing extensive runoff into my back yard. This has caused damage to my plantings (several large trees and two raised beds) and pools of water extending the length of my property line. Part of my property line is shared with Grace Cutting Park." Continued from 5/13/2020

Michelle Culross visited the site and spoke with the homeowner. Michelle Culross said there was quite a bit of damage from the runoff but the area was currently dry. The homeowner stated that there is no wetland on the property. Michelle Culross told the homeowner that this concern seems out of the Commission's jurisdiction. Michael Garland said that if the complaint is not wetland related the Commission would not be able to take any action.

3. **Julie Carlson of 250 Leicester Street** Email included in packets with questions regarding Dark Brook.

Michael Garland suggested continuing these questions to the next meeting on June 24th.

4. **James Buckley** called to report illegal filling of wetland at **404 Leicester Street**

Michael Garland drove by the property and did not see a wetland or any fill at 404 Leicester Street. He did not physically go on to the property or speak with the homeowner. Mr. Garland would like to visit the site within the next week to further investigate this report.

Issued Order of Conditions:

Southwest Manufactured Housing (Justin Stelmok), 23 Pinrock Road Auburn, MA Map 28 Parcel 45.

Alison Holmes made a motion to issue a negative determination of applicability with the condition that the applicant does not locate the shed within the 50ft buffer zone, seconded by Thomas Fallon. The vote was all in favor.

Jacob Warren, 4 Whitetail Run Auburn, MA Map 58 Parcel 59 & 95.

Thomas Fallon made a motion to issue a negative determination of applicability, seconded by Alison Holmes. The vote was all in favor

Meeting Minutes 4/22/2020

The Commission will vote on the minutes at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: June 24, 2020

8:20 PM Thomas Fallon motioned to adjourn, seconded by Alison Holmes. The vote was all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Regan

APPROVED ON 07/08/20